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pictures of absolute fidelity, the illustrations of a book of travels are perhaps its most important part. One can get a better idea of a scene from a photograph than from volumes of description. This handsome volume is adorned with great numbers of excellent plates, most of them made from photographs taken by the author; and from its pictures alone one gets an excellent idea of the most notable objects of interest in the Peninsula.

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LIFE IN THE ROMAN WORLD OF NERO AND ST. PAUL. By T. G. Tucker, Litt. D., Camb., Professor of Classical Philology in the University of Melbourne. New York: The Macmillan Company.

"I firmly believe," writes Dr. Tucker, "that the one hope for classical learning and education lies in the interest which the unlearned public may be brought to feel in ancient life and thoughts." From this the plan of his work may readily be inferred. The volume is a series of detached essays on Roman life. It is enriched with much illustrative and other matter recently contributed by archæology, and evinces on the part of the author a scholarly familiarity with his theme, and a sincere desire to effect his avowed purpose of rendering it popular.

Through the very stress of this desire, however, the author has sometimes marred his effort by a lack of dignity, which contributes neither to enlivenment nor interest. The book is of uneven merit, and lacking both in vitality, which its theme assuredly does not in itself lack, and in the fundamental deficiency of constructive historical imagination. It is readable, but disappointing.

I. B.

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THE SEA KINGS OF CRETE. By the Rev. James Baikie. New York: The Macmillan Company.

This is a valuable contribution to our archæological knowledge of the Mediterranean Island, which seems to hold the secret of the Homeric civilization. It contains a retelling of the legends, an account of the researches and discoveries of Schliemann and later explorers; pictures of the civilization that existed under the Sea Kings; and numerous illustrations; and though scientific in its main purpose, has all the charm of a popular history.